

The Washington Times.

Published every day in the year.

FRANK A. MUNSEY

PUBLICATION OFFICE.

Tenth and D Streets.

Subscription rates to out of town points, postage prepaid:

Daily, one year, \$3.00

Sunday, one year, \$2.50

All communications intended for publication in The Times should be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, for the editor's information and as a guarantee of good faith. Manuscripts will be returned only when the necessary postage is sent for that purpose.

When The Times is not found on sale at places where Washington papers usually are sold, intending purchasers will confer a favor by informing this office of the fact.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1903.

The Mighty Fallen.

How D'Artagnan is Misrepresented by His Decadent Descendant.

Lately one of those phlegmatic English naturalists, who would spend all day on the seashore noting how many eights of an inch a starfish crawls between breakfast and supper, made the exasperating statement that the highly cultivated literary life is bad for a man. He spoke of too much brain just as one might speak of too much beer.

But lo! here's a case to support the islander. You remember that eminent swashbuckler—that rungumptions soldier of fortune—D'Artagnan, the fire-eating Gascon, half Horatius Coclès and half Don Juan, over whose character Dumas sprinkled the salt of his wit and imagination. Well, the descendant of this modern Achilles is in America today in the shape of Count Robert de Montesquieu, a literary dilettante subject to "preciosities," plush waistcoats and "orehid shirt collars."

It is enough! The D'Artagnan-Montesquieu case is worthy of the naturalist's Class A. What would our old friends Athos, Porthos, and Aramis, the musketeers, think of Robert, the plush-waisted, the orehid-collared? They wouldn't do a thing to him! That's what comes of mingling the red blood of Gascony with the blue blood of Paris.

D'Artagnan fell at Maestricht with a red sword in his hand; and the man himself was full of red blood. His literary descendant has achieved a cartoon representing him with a flowered coat, cut en train, with a quill stuck in his ear, with a toy cane in his dainty hand and with a pretty bird dipping into his delicate mouth a message from the poetical treetops.

The Filtration Contract.

No Reason Why It Should Not Go In Part to Local Bidders.

Although any delay in pushing the construction of the projected filtration plant is deeply to be regretted, we cannot but approve the action of the Chief of Engineers in recommending a refusal of the bids offered by lump-sum contractors. According to the calculations of Colonel Miller, the engineer officer in charge of the District's water system, nearly \$200,000 can be saved to the District and the Government jointly if all wholesale bids are rejected and separate contracts are made for various branches of construction. General Gillespie, the head of the Engineer Corps, has approved these calculations, and has announced that in his opinion also it will be wise to divide the labor among a number of contractors.

The maker of the lowest bid on the first competition has joined, however, with the maker of the lowest bid on the second to defeat this change of plan, on the ground that it is not fair at this late date to alter the conditions of the bidding. This protest, with General Gillespie's money-saving recommendations, has now gone to the Assistant Secretary of War, who will determine which line of policy the department will follow.

But whether time would have been saved or not by accepting outright either one of the lump-sum bids, we feel that the best interests of the District will be served by an adherence to the special contract plan advised by the Engineer Corps officers. A saving to the city treasury of \$100,000 is no small consideration, while the fact that much of the work to be done under special contract will fall to local firms is another potent argument in favor of the newer program.

If one complete contract is made, all local contractors will be crowded out in favor of a single New York or Philadelphia concern. But if Colonel Miller's and General Gillespie's recommendations prevail, contracts amounting to over \$1,200,000 will be awarded to local bidders.

Under the law the War Department can award the contract in whole or in part, can divide the work if it

sees fit, and can even elect to have certain portions of it done by day labor. With such latitude allowed him the Assistant Secretary should find no difficulty in solving the problem before him in a manner altogether satisfactory to local interests.

The Senate Rules.

Little Prospect That Obstructive Methods Will Be Abandoned.

Talk of cloture in the Senate has been revived by the Hon. William B. Allison's proposal that the Rules Committee take advantage of the recess to overhaul the Senate code. Mr. Allison is the "Father of the Senate." He is the chairman of the Republican steering committee—the titular and actual leader of the Republican majority. Any suggestion coming from him is entitled to serious and respectful consideration, and we do not doubt that the Senate will cheerfully honor his request for a critical examination and possible revision of its present rules.

Yet we hesitate to believe that as a result of the projected recess inquiry the Senate's code will suffer any radical amendment. The deliberative branch of Congress is not averse to making a show of locking the door after the horse has been clearly stolen. At every special session, following some flagrant exhibition of filibustering in the Congress preceding, there has been much virtuous talk in the Senate about reforming an obsolete and dangerous parliamentary system.

Two years ago Senator O. H. Platt of Connecticut took the lead in the warfare against obstruction. But the closure resolution he introduced, like a dozen others fathered by other statesmen at similar junctures, went to its grave on a committee calendar, and the body it was intended to revolutionize knew it no more.

Mr. Allison's purpose is less apparently revolutionary than was Mr. Platt's. The Iowa Senator merely asks the Committee on Rules to study the code and see where and how it may be profitably amended. The text of the Allison resolution does not, indeed, debar the Rules Committee from inditing a fervent eulogy of the present system, and commending its retention in toto. The committee is to devise some form of closure only if it deems an innovation of that sort expedient.

We do not anticipate an abandonment by the Senate of its peculiar parliamentary code. It has been the Senate's constant struggle to expand and fortify its power. Its present methods of doing business give it an enormous advantage in any contest for supremacy with the House. They give each individual Senator an influence and weight incomparably greater than that exercised by any single member of the lower chamber. They throw into a few hands in the upper body the ultimate control of all legislation—the real authority in the lawmaking branch.

Individual Senators—especially Senators in the minority—realize too keenly the advantages they enjoy under the present code ever to consent to surrendering them. And the Senate as a body recognizes too clearly the added leverage on legislation it derives from its mere inertia, ever to reduce itself to a bare piece of voting machinery like the House. No; the Senate is scarcely short-sighted or disinterested enough as yet to renounce, in the interest of mere expedition in legislation, the extraordinary political and personal benefits it gathers from the operation of its evasive and tortuous system of "unanimous consent."

The Use of Navies.

Are They Properly Employed in Collecting Private Alien Debts?

There is a subsidiary question of interest in connection with the recent foray of the allied fleets upon Venezuela, namely, how far one government is justified in coercing another into the payment of private debts. The British ministry was obliged to listen to sharp censures upon this point in the debates on the address in both houses of parliament. Earl Spencer, in the lords, denounced the action of the government in joining the Germans in demanding payments on the railway bonds of Venezuela as a new departure in the foreign policy of England.

In the commons, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman declared that nothing could be more mischievous than that England should even seem to accept the doctrine that when Englishmen chose to invest their money in risky enterprises in foreign countries, and default followed, it was a public duty to rescue them. High dividends, he added, generally involve great risks, but if the whole power of the British empire is to be behind the investor, his risk vanishes, and his dividend should be reduced accordingly.

Mr. Balfour denied with heat that

the government had gone to war in the interest of bondholders who had loaned money to a foreign government, and expressed the hope that that might never become the practice of England.

Strictly speaking, he was within bounds in this denial. There are two classes of claims involved in the dispute between Venezuela and the allies. The first-class claims are those that represent national grievances; the second-class are ordinary debts due to individuals. It was the first-class claims which formed the basis for the coercion of Venezuela; but the second-class claims have been carried into the settlement by provisions in the protocols looking to their payment.

One of these days, if a European government attempts coercion in Latin America for the collection of merely private claims, in which no question of national honor is involved, we shall have a new and highly interesting question.

Free-Hand Comment.

Wall Street is not so very long, but it is a street of many "corners."

The little paragraph inserted in the Immigration bill prohibiting the sale of liquor in the Capitol is the most successful practical joke Congress has played on itself in a long time.

A son of Admiral Sampson, a son of Admiral Philip, and a grandson of General Howard are among the President's selections for appointment to the Naval Academy. If there is anything in heredity, these young men should make gallant fighters.

Workmen and manufacturers in the coffin industry are at a deadlock over certain demands of the employees. It would be in order for those who are about to die to salute the coffin-makers and suggest that the threatened strike be indefinitely postponed.

"I would rather find a good golf club than pass any measure through Congress," said John D. Rockefeller in the far West. Experience has taught the Standard Oil man that it is easier to put a legislative body in a hole than a gutty.

John Bright once said that a government which could not rule the United Kingdom on \$350,000,000 a year ought to be turned out of office. Yet this year, the army and navy together will cost almost exactly that sum, and the total national expenditure will reach \$750,000,000. These are figures which make the British taxpayer look rueful.

The voters of New Hampshire have defeated by a two-thirds majority a woman suffrage amendment to the State constitution. Lovely woman seems to enjoy less masculine confidence and admiration in the heart of New England than she does in the wild and woolly frontier Commonwealths like Idaho and Colorado.

The window glass trust threatens to smash the price by invoking better blowing apparatus. There's the scientific use of trusts—to cheapen wealth by invoking invention and making nature the servant of man. The trouble with us just now is that we are in danger of being slaves to things. We know of lots of people whose houses are so full of patented things that the folks are bothered to death to run 'em.

The Talk of the Day.

A complete set of "The Lark" is advertised for sale by a London dealer in second-hand books. One pound five shillings is the sum asked, and the hook is baited with this note: "In a certain cult in New York and Boston a man or woman who does not have his 'Lark' is considered much behind the times, and the poor unfortunate who never heard of it—a heathen! It is this publication which contains the immortal 'Purple Cow.' Yes; and that cow has been milked for all she's worth."

Mrs. E. B. Harrison, an English woman, supplies an examination paper for the use of housekeepers. Suppose there are "three staircases abovestairs—one of oak, one of stone, one of ordinary wood; what servant cleans which staircase? If there are cellar-steps, who cleans them? Who lays the tea in the housekeeper's room; and who cleans the cook's boots?"

As for tea, we suppose the mistress sees to its strength and puts in the sugar, and the maid cleans the house, cleans the cook's boots—that is, if he wishes her to stay.

Reggy Vanderbilt, like other distinguished exiles, Marius, Hannibal, Ovid and Napoleon Bonaparte, is weary of his forced absence from home. Stag dinners no longer delight him, and at the Newport reading rooms he has pored over "Burke's Peerage," "The Gotha Almanac" and "Who's Who in America" until he has committed them to memory and cannot in future make any awkward mistake. Now there is nothing for him to do but to go back to New York and bear testimony like a decent, ordinary citizen. Why tarry the wheels of his automobile?

Mrs. Florence M. Stowell insists that an experience in a big New York department store is bound to improve a girl mentally, physically, and financially. "The systematization of the business of the store could not but have its effect in making a young woman systematic and economical in her own expenditures of time and endeavor." Just so. When a girl works from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. she is not inclined to waste time or endeavor during the hours which she has to herself. In some of these model shops, there are classes in bookkeeping, dressmaking, millinery, and English. But the girls could learn English as well as patience from the customers. The floorwalkers in department are taught by

Needed Legislation on Cuban Treaty May Result in Extra Session of Congress—The President Likely to Issue Call for October 1—Union Labor Party to Be Represented in the House by the Hon. E. J. Livernash and the Hon. W. J. Wynn, of San Francisco.

New Party in the House.

There will be a new party represented in the incoming House, one which has never before sent members to Congress.

It is the Union Labor party, represented by the Hon. Edward James Livernash and the Hon. William Joseph Wynn, both of San Francisco. The former defeated the Hon. Julius Kahn, Republican, who has served two terms. His plurality over Mr. Kahn was but 141 votes, out of a total of more than 32,000, and Mr. Kahn has instituted a contest.

Mr. Livernash ran on two tickets, the Union Labor party's ticket, and the Democratic ticket. It is claimed that several hundred ballots cast for him were marked under the emblems of both parties, and hence the question as to their validity has arisen. If they are thrown out Mr. Kahn will win the seat.

Mr. Wynn defeated Representative Eugene F. Loud, who has been a member of the House for twelve years, by a majority of more than 6,000, although in 1900, Mr. Loud was returned himself by more than 6,000. The Union Labor party has developed remarkable strength in San Francisco in the past two or three years, and a little more than a year ago elected its candidate for mayor (Eugene Schmidt), with both a Republican and a Democrat in the race. Mayor Schmidt's predecessor, Mayor Phelan, who was elected for several terms, was a Democrat.

Will Act With Minority.

Both Mr. Livernash and Mr. Wynn were and still are Democrats. They were nominated by the Union Labor party with the understanding that they would receive the endorsement of the Democratic Congress conventions, without which neither could have been elected. They will both act with the minority in the House, although they are

to be classed as Union Laborists. One probable reason for their classification under this name is found in the belief that it may aid Mr. Livernash in his contest.

With so narrow a majority, the Republicans might easily unseat Mr. Livernash, as a Democrat, while they would doubtless hesitate to take this action, unless the grounds strongly warranted it, against a labor man, representing a labor party, and appealing for a right to a seat in behalf of labor interests. Members who have large labor constituencies would be reluctant to unseat a representative of organized labor, fearing the consequences which might result to themselves in their own districts if it were proven that they had assisted in turning out labor's member in the House.

Tom Johnson Defeated.

In the impending mayoralty campaign in Cleveland, the "Leader" of that city has already accomplished the defeat of the Hon. Tom L. Johnson, who will be a candidate to succeed himself. It is daily informing its readers that those of them who are voters, to the extent of thousands, are just awaiting election day, in order to express their disapproval of Mayor Johnson's administration.

It says that the general impression is that Mayor Tom has failed to justify the hopes of the electorate and that they are anxious for the time to come when they will have an opportunity to retire him. The reports which come from other sources than the "Leader," and these include well-informed Republicans, do not appear to bear out the paper's optimistic view of the ease with which the mayor will be defeated. In fact they generally concede a hard fight, with the chances much in favor of another term for Mayor Johnson.

IN THE COURTS AND CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD.

The Grand Duke Michael of Russia Now Known as the Strong Man of the Imperial Family—No Truth in Reports of Ill-Health—King Edward's Present to the Negus of Abyssinia—The Story of Count Rumford's Life.

The Strong Man of Russia.

Thanks to an American trainer, a New York professor of athletics, Grand Duke Michael of Russia has during the past few months developed into a perfect athlete, and is today known as the strong man of the imperial family.

A few months ago the press on both sides of the Atlantic was full of stories of the most lurid and sensational character describing the grand duke as afflicted with that same tuberculosis of the lungs which had carried off his brother George, his uncle, the late Czar-witch Nicholas, his cousin the late Grand Duke Alexis, the Caritzza Marie, and so many other members of the House of Romanoff.

I described at the time in these columns these stories, which originated from Berlin. And that my remarks on the subject were correct is now shown by the fact that the grand duke, who was already tall with a well-knit frame, has now developed into a splendid specimen of physical development, a fine athlete in every sense of the word, with a thorough understanding, not only of the manly art of self-defense, but likewise of wrestling and of tackling a man at close quarters. While he is not a gladiator like his father and his uncle, the Grand Duke Alexis and the Grand Duke Paul, he is nevertheless tall and stalwart, and infinitely more limber and athletic than they can ever boast of having been.

The Heir Apparent.

For the present the grand duke remains the heir apparent to the throne. For there are no prospects in sight of any addition to the family of the Czar. The young Czarina has been going about a great deal this winter, even attending entertainments at private houses, as for instance when she was present the other day at the theatricals given by Prince and Princess Yousouppoff, and until the thaw set in she was constantly seen riding about attended by only one of her ladies, in her low-lying sleigh, drawn by two black Orloffs, driven by her well-known, flowing bearded, enormously fat coachman, coiffed with the familiar four-cornered crimson velvet.

IN THE PUBLIC EYE.

Lucian Sharpe has presented to Brown University a handsome new pipe organ.

Some one asked Edward Elgar, the English composer, why he is so often called "Sir Edward." "That is a joke on me," answered Elgar, "it dates back to the time when I was an ignorant little country lad, and went up to school to Worcester. When I came into the classroom the teacher asked me, 'What is your name?' 'Edward Elgar,' I replied. 'Add the sir,' reprimanded the teacher, sharply. 'Sir Edward Elgar,' I corrected. Ever since that day all my old school friends call me 'sir.'"

DREAMS OF YOU.

I. The Winter hath dreams of you; Spring-time is bright With gleams of your beautiful tresses of Light. The violets blue As the dark eyes of you. And the birds singing sweet in the gardens you knew!

II. All seasons the South knows bring memories of you—As true as the stars in God's heaven are all true; Nor shall sorrow, or tears; Nor Life's hopes and its fears, Dim the joy of your love in Life's beautiful years! —F. L. S. in Atlanta Constitution.

topped hat, while standing behind on the narrowest of ledges was a tall footman in red and gold livery. There was no cavalry escort, and the Empress, while the snow was on the ground, was to be seen driving about almost every day totally unguarded, save for the fact that the police clear the way for her as much as possible between the numerous sleighs.

The Emperor, in the same way, has been seen quite as often driving about wholly unattended without either aide-de-camp or footman, in one of those small sleighs used by army officers, and frequently wedged up in blocks of traffic on the palace bridge. Of course both the Emperor and Empress are watched over by the police. But at any rate there is no obtrusive evidence thereof, and to the superficial onlooker no precautions whatsoever are taken for their safety.

King Edward's Present to Menelek.

Kink Edward has just presented to Emperor Menelek a pedigree bull, five beautiful cows and six dogs of various breeds, each a magnificent example of its kind. The Negus is passionately fond of animals, especially of cattle and of dogs, and King Edward's gift has apparently been more warmly appreciated than any other present which this lineal descendant of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba has received in recent years.

I hear, by the by, that the expulsion of the French envoy, M. Lagarde, from the Abyssinian capital, and the refusal of the Negus to hold any more intercourse with him, was due in a large measure to the action of the French missionaries of the Capuchin order, who are placed immediately under the protection and patronage of the French legation in Abyssinia and who have recently been distinguishing themselves by publicly proclaiming that the Christians of the Orthodox rite in Abyssinia—that is to say, the members of the Abyssinian National Church—were immeasurably inferior in morality, honesty and civilization to the Mohammedans.

This has, of course, brought up the entire Abyssinian clergy in arms against the French missionaries and against

It should be remembered that two years ago the "Leader," for several weeks before election, defeated Mr. Johnson in its columns every morning, and its thousands of readers were greatly surprised, and their faith in the paper was probably shaken, when the morning after election they made haste to scan its pages, expecting to find that this disciple of Henry George had been snowed under, to read that, on the contrary, he had been elected by more than 6,000 majority.

The "Leader" is able to defeat Mayor Johnson on every day except election day, which is the only one which counts.

Not to Have Their Drink.

By a vote of 88 to 40 the lower house of the Maine Legislature has refused to submit to the people the question of repealing the prohibitory liquor law. The measure was discussed at length in the body, two days being given over to its consideration, and while there was not from the start any serious question as to the outcome, much interest was manifested, which is evidence of the fact that the agitation for a repeal of the law will be kept up.

Those who favored a resubmission of the question of the people made a gain of two over the vote in the last Legislature. Vermont went dry for fifty years before she finally decided to adopt local option, and it is the aim of the opponents of the prohibition law in Maine to some day obtain local option for the Pine Tree State.

May Call Extra Session.

The action of the Senate committee yesterday in voting to report the Cuban reciprocity treaty with an amendment requiring the concurrent action of the House leads to the belief among those well informed in Administration circles

France, and the Abouna Matheos, the metropolitan and primate of the National Church of Abyssinia, has directed his clergy to excommunicate all those Abyssinian Christians who allow their children to attend either Capuchin schools or Capuchin services.

Famous Count Rumford.

There has been much frequent reference of late in the English and American press to Count Rumford in connection with the question of dealing with mendicancy, suggestions being made editorially that it would be well both in London and on this side of the water to take some leaves out of his book and to follow his example, that I have received quite a number of letters from my readers asking me for information about this Count Rumford.

The writers in almost every case seem to be ignorant of the fact that this very distinguished man who flourished at the beginning of the nineteenth century, and whose reputation remains international, was an American, a native of New England, who prior to becoming Count Rumford bore the name of Benjamin Thompson. They also seem unaware that the methods which he devised for dealing with mendicancy in Bavaria are identical with those employed by the Salvation Army today, with the distinction that whereas Count Rumford, by virtue of the powers vested in him by the Bavarian crown, was able to use compulsion, the Salvation Army can only employ persuasion. With this exception, Count Rumford may be said to have been the originator of the Salvation Army idea.

A Strange Story.

The count's story is indeed a strange one. He was born at Woburn, Mass., in 1753, was errand boy to a stockbroker at Salem, salesman at a store in Boston, school teacher at Bradford-on-the-Merrimack, and at nineteen married a very rich widow, a Mrs. Rolfe, daughter of a minister of the name of Walker, who was the first settler at Rumford, now called Concord, in New Hampshire. A Governor Wentworth of that State made him major of militia, and sent him in

that there will be an extra session of the Fifty-eighth Congress.

In fact, it is said that the President has practically decided to call both the Senate and House together on October 1, or thereabouts, to consider the Cuban treaty. There is much of politics in the adoption of such a plan.

In the first place, the action of the Senate committee will doubtless mean that the extraordinary session of the Senate will come to an end about the last of next week and thus enable the President to leave Washington for his proposed Western trip just before the first of April, as he has contemplated.

In the second place, the President desires that the sugar planters of Cuba shall have the benefit of the treaty this year. The bulk of the crop will be marketed in the fall, and if the matter of ratification is delayed until December this year's crop will not be benefited by the proposed reductions. Again, with a session of seven months ahead, there would be abundant opportunity for delay on the part of those who will oppose the treaty.

On the other hand, if Congress is called together on October 1 it would doubtless finish up its business and ratify the treaty in a short time, probably not longer than two weeks, as there are important elections in a number of States, and both Senators and Representatives would desire to get away from Washington and back into the campaign as early as possible before election day. Furthermore, the ratification of the treaty just prior to election would probably have a good effect in strengthening the Republican party at the polls, as there seems to be reason for believing that Cuban reciprocity is popular with the masses of the people. At any rate, there are good prospects of a session of Congress about the first of October.

1776 on the evacuation of Boston by the royal troops to carry dispatches to England. There Lord George Germaine, secretary of state, took a fancy to him, gave him an appointment, and four years later made him under-secretary of state. In 1779 he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society. Toward the close of the war of independence he was nominated to a cavalry command in America, but in 1783 quitted the British army with the rank and half pay of lieutenant colonel.

In Bavarian Service.

Traveling on the Continent with Gibson he was introduced by the latter to the Elector of Bavaria, who invited him to enter the civil and military service of that state. Having obtained the leave of the British government to accept the Prince's offer, and after having been knighted, together with the Order of Knighthood from King George III, he remained for eleven years at Munich as minister of war, minister of police, and grand chamberlain. He reorganized the Bavarian army and suppressed mendicancy. In one day he caused no fewer than three thousand beggars in Munich and its suburbs alone to be arrested by military patrols, and transferred to an industrial establishment prepared for their reception, where they were both housed and fed and forced not only to support themselves by their labors, but also used for the benefit of the electoral revenues.

In 1791 he was created a count of the Holy Roman Empire, and chose his title of Rumford from the name of the American township to which his first wife's family belonged. Toward the close of the eighteenth century he returned to England to live and founded the Royal Institution, which received its charter of royal incorporation from King George III in 1800. In 1804 he transferred his abode to France, and there married as his second wife the wealthy widow of Lavoisier, the celebrated chemist. He died suddenly in Paris in 1814, and his name is commemorated in this country among other things by the Rumford professorship of the Harvard University.

MARQUISE DE FONTENAY.

THE BEST THINGS FROM OTHER NEWSPAPERS.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

We Lack a Novelist.

The novel, like the newspaper, is today one form of universal communication through which Tolstoy preaches a new creed to all civilized nations; D'Annunzio reveals old temptations with a new charm; Zola a new literary method; Kipling cuts sharply through the social and literary conventions of civilization. How what American novelist is there, in spite of the enormous circulation of our fiction, who is today addressing a world audience? Philadelphia Press.

Gorman and 1904.

The only men who appear to be possible as candidates of the party in 1904, but a few months more than a year hence, are Judge Parker and Arthur Pue Gorman. With Bryan's support and with the leadership of the Senatorial contingent of the party, it would appear that the latter has by far the better position of the two in the race for the nomination. When there is added to these advantages the keen political foresight and the ability as an organizer and director of forces possessed by the Senator from Maryland, there need be no surprise if the opposing candidates for the Presidency next year should prove to be Roosevelt and Gorman.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

An Available Plank.

Somebody wants to know if President Roosevelt will insist upon putting a large-family plank in the next Republican platform.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

BITS OF MISCELLANY.

An Expensive Picture.

Prof. Briggs, of Harvard, tells a story about a Western man who had a son graduated at the seat of learning at Cambridge. The Westerner was showing a visitor his pictures, which were many and costly. At last he took him to the place where the son's Harvard diploma hung upon the wall in its frame. "This," said the Western man, "is the most expensive picture I have in my entire gallery."—New York Times.

America's Art Center.

The art student population of New York, according to the statement of the director of one of the largest art schools in the city, is about 2,000. The proportion of women to men is about 5 to 1. The resident population—that is, those who live permanently in this city—is comparatively small. New York is the art center of the continent and as such draws to it the best painters, the best sculptors, and the best designers. In no other city are there so many great art schools, so many museums and galleries and so many opportunities to develop talent.—New York Letter in Pittsburgh Dispatch.

A Practical Temperance Worker.

M. Witte, the Russian minister of finance, is an ardent temperance worker. He is a teetotaler, and induced the Czar to decorate the men and women who are the most active in temperance work. He makes no secret of his preference for teetotals in the various offices of the department he controls.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

SHAFTS OF WIT AND HUMOR.

Follies.

You need not underestimate the dangers of the brush just because you happened to go through the forest unharmed.

Praise from the petty bids the great doubt the validity of their greatness. Understand: this world is credulous and believes everything you tell it regarding yourself. Only when you wish to be recognized as a genius, either of goodness or of greatness, you must tell your claims into the world's ears, for then and there it will incline to deafness. But when you choose to make a confession of the folly or the inanity within you, whisper as low as you please, just once, because you will surely be heard.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Reflections of a Bachelor.

It takes imagination to fall in love, and fortitude to stay there.

When a man can't find any other trouble to get into he will begin to build a house.

Two inalienable privileges of a free-born man are to growl at his breakfast and kick against the Government.

After a college graduate wears off some of his knowledge he has a chance to learn how to know something.

Women is so naturally deceitful that when she steals a kiss from a man she acts like he ought to apologize for it.—New York Press

Pessimism.

What you call your pessimism is but grief, I tell you true. At the failure of creation. To request advice